

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 255611

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TO AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

INFO AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

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AFDROUGHT

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:

SUBJECT: OPERATION KING GRAIN

REQUEST U.S. EMBASSY/BAMAKO PASS THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE

FROM AID ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR FOR AFRICA SAMUEL C.

ADAMS, JR. TO HIS EXCELLENCY, KISSIMA DOUKARA, MINISTER OF

DEFENSE AND DROUGHT RELIEF COORDINATOR, GOVERNMENT OF MALI.

1. DURING THE COURSE OF THE 1974 SAHEL RAINY SEASON, THE
UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT WAS CALLED UPON TO UNDERTAKE

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PAGE 02 STATE 255611

AIRLIFT OPERATIONS FOR THE TRANSPORT OF FOOD-GRAINS TO

ISOLATED POPULATIONS IN MALI, MAURITANIA AND CHAD. THE ULTIMATE SUCCESS OF THESE AIRLIFTS WAS DEPENDENT UPON THE CLOSE COORDINATION AND COOPERATION OF MANY PARTIES, BOTH WITHIN THE U.S. GOVERNMENT AND WITHIN THE SAHELIAN GOVERNMENTS THEMSELVES. THE HIGHLY IMPORTANT ROLE PLAYED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF MALI WAS CRUCIAL TO THE FINAL SUCCESS WHICH THESE AIRLIFT OPERATIONS ULTIMATELY ACHIEVED.

2. THE SPIRIT OF COOPERATION EVIDENCED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF MALI IN MAKING THE AIRPORT FACILITIES IN BAMAKO AVAILABLE AS A STAGING AREA FOR THE MAURITANIAN AIRLIFT AND ALLOWING BAMAKO TO BE UTILIZED AS THE COMMAND POST FOR THE AIRLIFT IN CHAD WAS TRULY A REFLECTION OF THE

FRATERNITY AMONG NATIONS WHICH IS SO ESSENTIAL IN TIMES OF EMERGENCY CONDITIONS.

3. ON BEHALF OF THE AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT I WISH TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS OUR GRATITUDE TO YOUR EXCELLENCY FOR THE PERSONAL INTERCESSIONS YOU HAVE MADE ON BEHALF OF THE STRICKEN POPULATIONS OF THE SAHEL AND TO THE GOVERNMENT OF MALI FOR ITS COOPERATIVE ASSISTANCE IN THESE JOINT ENDEAVORS. INGERSOLL

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